

B. CLAIMS

1        1. (currently amended) A game ball comprising:  
2              a molded spherical carcass having an outer surface, the outer surface defining  
3 at least one inwardly extending channel; and  
4              a one-piece seamless cover, the cover being free of a backing layer, the cover  
5 surrounding the carcass and bonded to the carcass without an adhesive, the cover having a  
6 thickness less than 0.5 mm, the cover configured to conform to the contours of the outer  
7 surface such that the at least one inwardly extending channel of the carcass forms at least one  
8 elongate recess in an outer surface of the cover.

1        2. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed  
2 of a material selected from the group consisting of a wet process polyurethane, a dry process  
3 polyurethane, a coagulated polyurethane, other polyurethanes and combinations thereof.

1        3. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the carcass includes  
2 a bladder and at least one thread wound around the bladder.

1        4. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 3, wherein the carcass further  
2 includes at least one panel molded over the thread-wound bladder.

1        5. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed  
2 of a material having a density within the range of 200-1200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        6. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed  
2 of a material having a density within the range of 400-600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        7. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed  
2 of a material having a density within the range of 250-350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        8. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed  
2 of a material having a density within the range of 600-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        9. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 1 wherein the cover has a  
2 thickness within the range of 0.1 mm to 0.5 mm.

1        10. (canceled) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover has a thickness of less  
2 than 0.5 mm.

1        11. (currently amended) A game ball comprising:  
2              a molded carcass having an outer surface, the outer surface defining at least  
3 one inwardly extending channel; and

4              a cover layer formed without a backing layer and without seams, the cover  
5 layer substantially surrounding the carcass, the cover layer having a thickness less than 0.8  
6 mm, the cover layer being selected from the group consisting of a sprayed-on cover, a painted-  
7 on cover, an electro-statically painted-on cover, a brushed-on cover, a dipped-on cover, and  
8 combinations thereof, the cover configured to conform to the contours of the outer surface  
9 such that the at least one inwardly extending channel of the carcass forms at least one elongate  
10 recess in an outer surface of the cover.

1        12. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is a  
2 one-piece, integrally formed structure.

1        13. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer is  
2 formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a urethane, a wet process  
3 polyurethane, a dry process polyurethane, a coagulated polyurethane, other polyurethanes, a  
4 plastic, and combinations thereof.

1        14. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the carcass includes  
2 an inflatable bladder and at least one thread wound around the bladder.

1        15. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 14 wherein the carcass further  
2 includes at least one panel molded over the thread-wound bladder.

1        16. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is  
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 200-1200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        17. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is  
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 400-600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        18. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is  
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 250-350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        19. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is  
2 formed of a material having a density within the range of 600-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1        20. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer is  
2 formed around the carcass without the use of an adhesive agent.

1        21. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 further comprising an  
2 adhesive agent at least partially connecting the cover layer to the carcass.

1        22. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer has a  
2 thickness within the range of 0.1 mm to 0.5 mm.

1        23. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the game ball is  
2 selected from the group consisting of a basketball, a football, a soccer ball and a volleyball.

1        24. (previously presented) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer has  
2 a thickness of less than 0.5 mm.

1        25. (canceled) A game ball comprising a spherical carcass and a cover, the cover  
2 including a thin layer of backing cloth and a cover including a resilient cover material  
3 integrally formed with the thin layer of backing, the cover material selected from the group

4 consisting of a wet process polyurethane, a dry process polyurethane, a coagulated  
5 polyurethane, other polyurethanes and combinations thereof, the cover surrounding the carcass  
6 and having a thickness less than 0.8 mm.

1           26. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25 wherein the cover is bonded to carcass  
2 with an adhesive.

3           27. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density  
4 within the range of 200-1200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           28. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density  
2 within the range of 400-600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           29. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density  
2 within the range of 250-350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           30. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a a  
2 density within the range of 600-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           31. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover has a thickness  
2 within the range of 0.2 and 0.75 mm.

1           32. (canceled) The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover has a thickness of  
2 less than 0.5 mm.

1           33. (new) The game ball of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of the carcass  
2 further defines a plurality of outwardly projecting pebbles separated by a plurality of valleys.

1           34. (new) The game ball of claim 11, wherein the outer surface of the carcass  
2 further defines a plurality of outwardly projecting pebbles separated by a plurality of valleys.